reelers at important reeling clusters all over the country and are producing gradable quality raw silk using the reeling package developed by Central Silk Technological Research Institute of Central Silk Board.

(e)and (f) There is no such proposal under consideration in the Government to provide financial assistance/subsidy to handloom weavers, as providing assistance to aquire powerlooms is detrimental to the interests of handlooms weavers.

Apparel Textile Parks

1642. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme for opening/starting Apparel Textile Parks in the country;

(b) if so, what are the main grounds for opening the same;

(c) how much amount is proposed for such Parks; and

(d) whether Government of Gujarat have asked Government for granting such Parks in Gujarat and what is the response to it?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) & (b) To provide the textile industry with world-class infrastructure facilities for setting up their textile units, Government has launched the 'Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP)' by merging the 'Scheme for Apparel Parks for Exports (APE)' and Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme (TCIDS).' This scheme is based on Public-Private Partnership (PPP) and would facilities textile units to meet international environmental and social standards.

(c) The Government of India's (Gol) support under the Scheme by way of Grant or Equity is limited to 40% of the project cost subject to a ceiling of Rs.' 40 Crore. However, the combined equity stake of Gol/State Government/State Industrial Development Corporation, if any, shall not exceed 49%.

(d) The Ministry of Textiles has not received any request from the Government of Gujarat for setting up Textile Parks in Gujarat. However, Gujarat Eco Textile Park, Surat has been sanctioned under the SITP at an

estimated cost of Rs. 114 Crore with Government of India assistance of Rs. 40 Crore.

Availability of Cotton Yam

1643. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Handloom and powerloom units are facing closure due . to non-availability of cotton yarn at reasonable prices;

(b) if so, the number of such units closed down in the country till date, "State-wise;

(c) whether Government has announced any relaxation in the import of cotton yarn in view of its insufficient availability; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to ensure the availability of cotton yarn?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGUELA): (a) The data of production, price and import of cotton yarn during last three years is furnished in Statement. This shows ample availability of cotton yarn to handloom and powerloom sectors at reasonable prices. As such, handloom and powerloom units are not facing closure due to non-availahifity of cotton yarn at reasonable prices.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Import of cotton yam is under Open General License. Further steps taken by the Government to ensure the availability of cotton yarn indued:—

- To improve productivity and quality of cotton, Government has launched the Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC). The Mission has achieved success in increasing the productivity and reducing the contamination through upgradation of cotton market yards arid modernisation of Ginning & Pressing factories.
- The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) was launched to facilities the modernisation and upgradation of the textile industry.